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## THURSDAY MORNING, APRIL 30, 1857.

ag-Mr. Heser M. Lawis, Montgomery, Alabama, is our generaling agent for the States of Alabama and Tennessee, assisted elling agent for the caucies of Anomana and Tempesace, assisted by V. Lewis, James O. Lawis, and Sancies D. Lawis.

age-Mr. Israel E. James, No. 182 South Tenth street, Philadelphia, to our general travelling agent, assisted by Wat. H. Weld, John Cot. 1988, James Dereino, J. Harmeter, R. S. James, Toos. D. Nick, R. W. Mossinson, E. W. Whiley, Wis. L. Warreman, Alex. H. Casson, D. K. Murtis, Ben. F. Swain, T. Ashkan, and P. Davis.

OFFICIAL.

APPOINTMENTS BY THE PRESIDENT.

Samuel L. Hays receiver of public moneys a Sauk Rapids, Minnesota Territory, vice William H. Wood, whose commission has expired.

Lewis G. Pyles, of Florida, register of the land office at Newnansville, Florida, vice Thomas J. Prevalt. deceased.

Abraham H. Palmer, of Iowa, receiver of public noneys at Council Bluffs, Iowa, vice Enes Lowe, resigned.

### SOME OF THE WONDERS OF THE DAY

We do not think we venture too much in saying that the railway and the magnetic telegraph have done mere to consolidate our great confederacy of States, to remove the prejudices of sectionalism, and to make us one people, with one interest and one destiny, than have been accomplished by all the measures of compromise that have been adopted by our representatives or all the speeches that have been delivered in or out of Congress. Seventy or eighty years ago the inland journey from Philadelphia to Boston occupied a period of from two to three weeks! During the administration of Mr. Madison a trip from Washington to Savannah not unfrequently consumed forty days! And as late as 1828 travellers were often on the road for forty-eight hours between Washington and Baltimore.

The time-annihilating wonders of the railway are still more striking if we direct our attention to that portion of the Union which was a wilderness within the recollection of thousands now living who are not much beyond the middle age of life. Before the days of steamboats and locomotives a journey to St. Louis from the Atlantic cities was a journey of weeks and even months. Now passengers—as we know from recent personal experience—can make the trip from Washington to St. Louis in two days and twelve hours! The writer of this article was just seven days (in 1845) in reaching Louisville from Washington by the then quickest mode of conveyance; and a friend informs us that in the fall of 1839 he was three weeks in making the trip from Baltimore to Louisville, travelling night and day the whole time, and as rapidly as stage coaches and stern-wheel steamers would

Without steam and the several interoceanic communications, what would now be the condition of those great Pacific commonwealths which have added, and which will continue to add, so much wealth, power, and lustre to our glorious Union? A few years ago, twelve and even eighteen months were consumed in a trip from the Atlantic seaboard to San Francisco and back. Now the round trip can be made in from six to eight weeks

The country, no doubt, owes an immense debt of gratitude to the noble and onlightened labors of the long line of patriots and statesmen which connects the revolutionary period of our history to the present times; but, while evincing a grateful spirit, let us not be unmindful of the benefits and blessings and the union-consolidating tendencies of the railway and magnetic telegraph.

# FREE SUFFRAGE TO THE NEGROES.

The black republicans of New York are now striving to amend the constitution of that State so as to extend free suffrage to the negroes-or, in other words, to expurgate the present constitutional clause, which requires "a three-years citizenship, and a freehold of two hundred and fifty dollars, as a qualification for a man of color to vote." The inconsistency of this movement on the part of the higher-law party is clearly shown in the following extract from the address recently issued by the democratic memhers of the New York legislature to their constitu-

"The question involved in this proposed movement is not now for the first time before the people. It was set-tled in the constitution of 1821, after full and elaborate vass which first elected him to the office of governor, when interrogated by a committee, consisting of John Jay and Gerrit Smith, as to his views upon this subject, re-plied, under date of Auburn. October 22, 1838, as fol-

"I believe that all men may become competent to the responsibilities of self-government. I think, also, that nations and races may become debased by ignorance so as to be destitute of the intelligence and virtue requisite for the discharge of these responsibilities.

to be destitute of the intelligence and virtue requisite for the discharge of these responsibilities.

"The constitution seems to have adopted those princi-ples by imposing a restriction on the right of suffrage on the part of the colored population instead of their total exclusion. In this view, the constitutional restriction in question is scarcely to be regarded as a distinction found-ed solely on complexion; but should rather be considered a test to discriminate between those of that race who possess the requisite intelligence and capacity to discharge the responsibilities of freemen and those who do not. Objectionable as a property qualification is for such a test, I am not prepared to say, having in view the actual condition of that race, that no test ought to exist."

The Democratic State Committee of Pennsylvania met at Philadelphia last week, and unanimously passed a resolution reconvening the State convention of the 2d of March, at Harrisburg, on the 9th day of June next, at 10 o'clock, for the purpose of nominating candidates to fill the vacancies on the supreme bench occasioned by the retiring of Chief Justice Lewis and the appointment of Judge Black to the Attorney Generalship of the United States.

THE CLOUDS BREAKING IN RHODE ISLAND.

The redemption of Newport, Rhode Island, the old stronghold of the enemy, is one of the most hopeful signs of the times. The vote for mayor stood-for William H. Cranston, 560; Swinburne, present mayor and sham republican and bogus American candidate, 334; scattering, 47. Cranston over Swinburne, 226; over all, 179. The Providence Post remarks of Mr.

Crasston:

"It is fair to say, that having clung to the whig party until it was dead, and heartily despising the men who killed it and the miscrable issus which succeeded it, he planted himself upon the national democratic platform, as the only platform left for honest national men; and in return for his manly, consistent course, was voted for by all the democrats who voted at all last Thursday. After his speech at the meeting which nominated him, the Advertiser announced that it should claim his election as a democratic victory; and the News, quoting the paragraph as a warning to its political friends, indicated its conviction that the claim would be perfectly reasonable and proper."

COTTON IN ALGERIA.

We published in our issue of Saturday evening last a extract from the report of the jury charged to award the prize of 20,000 francs given by the Empeor annually, for a period of five years from 1853, as an ncouragement for the cultivation of cotton in Algeria. This report has been spread before the world through the columns of the official organ of the French government, (the Paris Moniteur,) and will attract more than ordinary attention from the fact that there is but one year left of the period in which the grand experiment of competing with the United States in the production of cotton is to be stimulated into a fixed reality by the magnificent douceur of 100,000 francs. The liberality of the Emperor was undoubtedly commendable, though we must add, notwithstanding the statements to the contrary which we find so ingeniously put forth in the report, that it has resulted in demonstrating the atter folly of all future attempts to convert Algeria into a cotton-growing ountry. The fact so pompously affirmed in the report, that "the planters in Algeria have obtained two important points towards competition with the United States-quality and equal yield according to the quantity of ground planted"-so far from weakening our convictions on this subject, only serve to strengthen and confirm them; and such would be the general conviction on every mind had the report entered into the minute details of these cotton-growing experiments, and candidly avowed the fact that they were not conducted on a much larger scale than one can see in almost every conservatory or hot-house in Paris, where the most delicate fruits of the tropics are grown almost in as much perfection as they could attain under the burning sun of their native clime. We have before us an official journal published in Algiers, the "Akhbar-Journal de "Algeric" of the 25th January of the present year, in which we find the details, from which doubtless the report in the Moniteur was chiefly made up, of the experiments, alluded to, and the awards of the prize missioners in view of the "two important points wards competition with the United States" achieved by the cotton experimentalists in the French colony of Algeria. We translate the article as we find it in the "Akhbar" for the benefit of our southern otton-growers, and we would be pleased to publish. for the instruction of our friends in Algeria, any surgestions they may be pleased to transmit to us touch ing the closing remark of the report, "that the government [of France] would do well to give special encouragement for works tending to facilitate irriga-

In our issue of January 16 we published, without omment, from the "Moniteur Algerien" of the 15th inst., the report upon the results of the provincial fair of the cotton-growers of the province of Algiers for the year 1856.

These results were as follows :

1. Prize of 5,000 francs and a silver medal. One cometitor. Prize awarded.

2. Prize of 3,000 francs and a silver medal. Two com titors. Prize reserved.
3. Prize of 1,000 francs and a silver medal. Five com-titors. Prize reserved.

etitors. Prize reserveu.
4. Prize of 600 francs and a silver medal. No compet-Prize reserved.

Prize of 400 francs and a bronze medal. No compet

6. Prize of 200 francs and a bronze medal. Five con-titors. Prize awarded.

Thus, a sum of 10,200 francs is expended in prizes, besides the silver and bronze medals. Two of these prizes drew no competitors, and the most important vas awarded to a colonist who had no rival to dispute his claim; and for the second-best prize there were but two competitors, to neither of whom it was awarded

Thirteen competitors contended for these prizes and but two out of that number were entitled to consideration. As some recompense, however, for the toil and zeal of the unsuccessful competitors, the sum of 3,850 francs was distributed amongst them.

What an argument do not these facts supply in favor of our objections to the abusive system of rewards and prizes! We do not, however, insist upon our own opinions being adopted. Facts must speak for us. We must express the hope, however, that the lesson which this example conveys will not escape the enlightened and attentive solicitude of the

From the report at length, as published in the Akhbar of the 16th January, 1857, we translate the following salient passages introduced in the deci-

clude that the two parcels of ground Nos. 2 and 3, containing together 3 hectares,\* 49 ares, 60 centares, exhibit a beautiful vegetation, and have entirely succeeded; that the piece No. 1, containing 2 hectares, 22 ares being dry soil, exhibits an average success of four-fifths of the whole. The aggregate, therefore, of 5 hectares being successful, the prize of 5,000 france is awarded.

In reference to the second prize the jury say, th soil not being susceptible of irrigation, satisfactory results could not be expected; and the same cause proves the chief obstacle in the other cases. The prizes cannot be given, in the words of the report. pour non reussite ou defaut de contenance," or, as the Hibernian coroner once reported, after holding an inquest, "the deceased came to his death for want of

The jury were Messrs. Butagne, counsellor of the Prefecture, president : Frutic and Colson, members of the Chamber of Consultation; and Franlieu and Darru, inspectors of colonization. The prizes were distributed by the governor general.

The hectare contains a little over two acres.

SECRETARY THOMPSON.

At a democratic meeting held at Lafayette county, (Miss...) on the 20th instant, among the resolutions adopted was the following :

"Resolved, That the President, in the selection of our townsman and fellow-citizen, the Hon. Jacob Thompson, as one of his cabinet, who is endeared to us by so many ties of personal and political friendship, has added another link in the chain of our political friendship to him, and has given additional assurance to the world that his administration will in all things conform to the great truths of democracy, and redound to the glory of our country."

# THE POSTMASTER GENERAL.

The Lancaster (Pa.) Intelligencer says:

"We hear on all sides that the new Postmaster General, Gov. Brown, is discharging the onerous and vexations duties of his office to the great satisfaction of all who have business with the department. His immediate predecessor, Judget Lampbell, was an admirable officer in every respect, and it is praise enough to know that the new incumbent will fully come up to the standard of the distinguished gentleman who filled the office during the entire term of the late administration. We predict that Gov. Beown, aided, as he is, by that admirable officer, Mr. King, and the other assistants, will prove to be one of the most popular and efficient Postmasters General who ever fitled the difficult post." The Lancaster (Pa.) Intelligencer says:

THE PROSPECT IN KENTUCKY.

The Lexington (Kentucky) Statesman of the 24th stant has an elaborate and most cheering article in relation to the approaching congressional elections in that State. The Statesman says:

in that State. The Statesman says:

"The democracy in every part of the State seem thoroughly aroused to the importance of the summer contests in Kentucky, and are actively marshalling their forces in the different congressional districts, in order to secure the largest possible number of supporters to the present administration from the representation of Kentucky in the next Congress. Our friends everywhere seem to recognise the imminent importance of sustaining the sound domestic policy enunciated in the haugural Address of the President, by securing to his support in Congress a body of firin, unswerving national statesmen, without suspicion of affiliation with northern sectionalists, and of known southern sympathies."

After taking a surviver of the whole field district

After taking a survey of the whole field-district by district-the Statesman arrives at the following

gratifying conclusions: "It will thus be seen that we yield to the opposition but two districts—the 3d and 7th—and we claim for the democracy seven, beyond reasonable doubt. We but express the opinion of many of our friends not unacquainted with this district when we say a triumph in the 8th is solely dependent upon the activity and zeal of our party; and we have yet to hear of a precinct in which signs of apathy in democratic ranks indicate defeat. A reasonable survey of the battle-field, with some reliable advices, encourages us to believe that eight of Kentucky's representation in the next Congress will be reliable supporters of the policy of the present administration. Add to this glorious result the entire redemption of the legislative department, thereby securing still another statesman in the partment, thereby securing still another statesman in the United States Senate, whose ardent advocacy of souther rights will be unequivocal, and the utmost wish of the patriot and democrat will be gratified."

ANOTHER RESPONSE TO THE INAUGURAL.

On Monday, the 20th, an election for municipal officers took place in Quincy, Illinois, and resulted in a thorough democratic victory. The Whig contains the figures, as follows:

Mayor-Thaver, democrat, 1,030; Savage, repubtican, 691; majority 339.

The democrats elect their marshal and a majority of the aldermen. Two years ago Richardson's majority was 24 : one

year ago Wood, republican, had 60 majority, and last fall the democratic majority was 200.

This is also another response to the President's

We have noticed a very silly paragraph in some our exchanges in relation to the widow of the late President Polk. Whoever wrote it knew very little of the personal history of that lady. She is represented as having visited England since the death of her husband whereas it is well known that she has been living in great retirement at her own elegant asion in the city of Nashville ever since her bereavement. The writer, whoever he was, betrayed an equal want of information of the future intentions of Mrs. Polk when he announced that it was her purpose to come to Washington to reside during the ensuing winter; whereas no one has expected her to do more than to pay an ordinary visit to the family of the Postmaster General, with whom a friendly and intimate association has long existed. Such a visit would also give her an opportunity to see many of the former friends and admirers of herself and husband. No lady over had a greater number, and they would feel extremely mortified if such indelicate notices of her as those to which we now allude should induce her to abandon a social visit to her friends in Washington, and thereby deprive them of an opportunity to testify their high appreciation of her many virtues and accomplishments.

THE BANQUET TO SENATOR BROWN. The Mississippian of the 21st inst. gives a glowing account of the public banquet given at Jackson on the preceding Saturday to Senator Brown. The Missis-

sippian says: sippian says:

"On Saturday morning last the boom of cannon announced the arrival at the capital of the State of one whose eminent services in the high office of federal schator had elicited from his fellow-citizens of Jackson, irrespective of party predilection, the spontaneous tribute of a public banquet. At the hour of four o'clock in the evening a concourse of citizens were wending to the City Hall. In one-of the elegant and spacious chambers of that beautiful building an excellent band of music, supplied by Mr. Blackmar, was bidding melodious welcome to the distinguished guest and his hospitable and appreciative entertailners.

iative entertainers.
"The arrival of Hon. Albert G. Brown, whose ence at once induced manifestations of interest and pleasure, was the signal for the large company to assume places at the festive board; and, without further grelimants and the properties of the properties of

In response to a complimentary toast, Senator Brown addressed the company briefly, but in the most feeling and eloquent manner. In the course of his remarks he said :

"He was proud of the compliment, but certainly that "He was proud of the compliment, but certainly that and the various other testimonials with which his fellow-citizens had continued to honor him during a series of years did not cause him to forget how great were his ob-ligations to a generous and indulgent constituency, the people of Mississippi. Thirty-three years had passed since first his infant feet had trod the almost wilderness where Jackson now stands. As a barefooted boy, he had followed a pioneer father to the untenanted forests of the now county of Copiah. Twelve years afterwards the now country of Copials. Twelve years afterwards the people honored him with a seat in the legislature. He was subsequently elevated to the bench, afterwards to the chief magistracy of the State, then to the lower house of Congress, and now stood before them one of their federal senators, honored with their approving voice. Not in the spirit of boasting did he allude to these facts, but for the

The company were also addressed by Gov. McRae. Gen. J. D. Freeman, W. M. Gillespie, esq., Judge J. M. Moore, and other distinguished gentlemen.

ARMY TESTIMONIAL TO GENERAL QUITMAN.—The officer ARM TESTIMONIAL TO GENERAL QUITMAN.—The officers
of the United States army intend to present Gen. Quitman a service of silver plate for his efforts in securing the
passage through Congress of the bill making an addition
to their salaries. Gen. Quitman, it will be remembered,
was the chairman of the House Military Committee.
General Scott has written him a very handsome letter,
announcing that, as the senior officer, he has consented
to act as the organ of his brother-officers of the army in
procuring the proposed testimonial.—Baltimore Sun.

We have unquestionable authority for saying that the above statements are incorrect. We have heard that a few officers-following out the first impulse of gratitude to their old and valued associate-infor his handsome and zealous advocacy of their claims upon legislative consideration-initiated a proposition to present a handsome testimonial to Gen. Quitman. But it appears that, upon reflection, the General's friends-under which description may be comprised every name on the army list-apprehensive that such a tribute might wear some appearance of indelicacy, or give some ground for cavil, did not feel at liberty to act upon the friendly impulse which gave rise to the proposition.

General Scott's letter, which we have seen, was souched in warm and handsome terms of acknowladgment to Gen. Quitman for his friendly interest in the army, but had no reference to any other or more tangible testimonial than the heartfelt expression of gratitude and affection on the part of his former community to the first part of one cent, upon each mile each passenger for eight and other passengers. rades in the field

## DEPARTMENT NEWS

STATE DEPARTMENT.

A Temporary Light-ship at the entrance of the Mullah .- The following notice to mariners has been received from Mr. Charles Huffnagle, the United States consul-general

A light-vessel has been temporarily stationed at the entrance of the river Mutlah in the following position, viz: In latitude 21.6 north, longitude 85.48 east, nearly in 10 fathems low water, spring tides, about 7 miles southeast of the Outer or Bulcherry-reef buoy.

southeast of the Outer or Bulcherry-reef buoy.

2d. This new floating light will hoist a red flag at the mainmast head by day, and exhibit a clear white light from sunset to sunrise, and, in addition to this, she will, if she continues in her position, fire a rocket at 8, p. m., at midnight, and at 4, a. m., from the 15th of March until the 16th of October.

3d. For the present a pilot brig will show the light.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT.

The new Court-House and Post Office at Indianapolis, Indina. -The Secretary of the Treasury has appointed Edwin May, esq., superintendent of construction for the new court-house and post office authorized to be erected at In-

INTERIOR DEPARTMENT.

ercations in California. - J. Ross Browne, special agent of the Treasury Department in California, has inestigated the condition of the Indian reservations that State. He found the Sebastian or Tejon reservation, which was established in November, 1853, under the superintendence of E. F. Beale, esq., for the benefit and protection of the Indians inhabiting the southern part of California, in a backward condition. In 1854 the crops produced by Mr. Beale were very large, but since then, consequence of the drought and a want of energy on the part of the cultivators, inconsiderable crops have been raised. After a careful investigation, Mr. Browne was led to suggest, for the adoption of the Indian department the following policy in the management of this reserve

" I. The appointment of a suitable agent, and a care state of decay and ruin.

oval of one-half of the white employees "2. The removal of one-half of the white including hunters, overseers, and idlers

ous.
3. The adoption of a rule prohibiting the distribu-"3. The adoption of a rule prohibiting the distribution of blankets, clothing, &c., to any family or band of Indians who refuse to render some equivalent for the same in labor, according to their capacity, unless in cases of actual necessity, and to prevent extreme suffering.
"4. All the Pueblo and Los Angelos Indians to be taken by force, if necessary, and placed at the reservation, there to be kept, and made to work as others; and

the commandant at the Fort to prevent any intercours between them, and their alleged owners, none of whor should be permitted to visit the reservation without as thority from the superintendent.

The Name-Lackee reservation was established by Col. Henly, the present superintendent, in September, 1854. about twenty-five miles from Tehamco, the head of navigation on the Sacramento river. It embraces twenty-five thousand acres of land in the foot-hills of the coast range overlooking the Sacramento valley. Great energy had been displayed by the superintendent and agent in the management of this reservation, which is one of the most flourishing on the Pacific coast. The Indians reside in good wooden houses, and all who are able assist in the cultivation of the land. Mr. B. had nowhere seen the Indians of California better fed, or better satisfied with their condition, than at this place. As a general thing, they were more docile, honest, and intelligent than the Indians, and much more easily induced to labor. In all cases which had come under his observation, a very marked improvement in the physical condition of ese wild tribes had been visible in a few months after their arrival at the reservation. They increased in size and strength, and became more active and less brutish.

Mendocino reservation was located in October 1855, by Major Heintzleman, under the direction of Superintendent Henly, ten miles north of Big river, which mptics into the ocean about one hundred and seventy miles north of San Francisco. It was intended that the reservation should embrace a strip of country extending fifteen or twenty miles along the coast, varying from two to three or four miles in width, which will be sufficient to exclude white settlers. Little more than a year ago this vas a wilderness, inhabited only by wild Indian now it is a flourishing farm, with several good frame nouses, eight hundred acres of land fenced in and under cultivation, three or four Indian villages, and about three hundred thousand Indians, as happy and contented as it s possible for them to be. These Indians are represented to be docile and well disposed; enjoy their dances and feasts, and, when not troubled by white strugglers, are entirely satisfied with their condition, which is certainly much better than it has ever been before.

Mr. B. mentions, as one great desideratum on all the reservations, the want of schools and teachers. For a small compensation suitable teachers could be obtained and by selecting the most intelligent of the young Indians it would not be long before many of them would acquire at least the rudiments of an English education. He had no doubt that the system of education adopted for the benefit of the Chippewa, Sioux, Cherokee, and other tribes in the Atlantic territories could be beneficially carried into effect in California.

The Sale of Indian Trust Lands .- Lieutenant Robert S. Stevens, of Lecompton, Kansas Territory, has been appointed by the President of the United States a com sioner to superintend the sale of the trust-lands of the confederated bands of Kaskaskia, Peoria, Piankeshaw, and Weg Indians in that Territory, on the 24th day of Jun The necessary instructions for the government of Lieut. S. in the discharge of the duties devolved upon him by this appointment, and the fifth section of the I ation bill, will shortly be issued by the Com dian-appropris missioner of Indian Affairs. Removal of a Land Office. - The land office at Red Wing,

Minnesota, has been removed to Henderson.

Presentation of a Sword to Capt. Hartstein. - The Secretary of the Navy yesterday morning delivered to Capt. Hartstein the superb sword of which we published a descrip days since. Mr. Toucey expressed himsel happy to be the medium of handing to Capt. H. that testimonial of the English government to his courteous bearing on the occasion of conveying the "Resolute" to Great Britain.

INDIAN WAR IN MINNESOTA. The St. Paul Pioneer and Democrat of the 14th inst.

"We learn by a gentleman from Fort Snelling that a messenger arrived there yesterday from Mankato with the alarming intelligence that the Sioux in that vicinity, to the number of six hundred, had attacked the white residents in the neighborhood of Mankato, had killed several white men, and burned the town. The news was communicated to Col. Smith, commandant at Fort Snelling, in a letter from Capt. Dodd, of St. Peter, calling upon him for assistance.

on him for assistance.

\*Col. Smith will leave the fort this morning with three companies of infantry for Mankato.

"We were loth to place confidence in the above, but it comes to us in such shape as to leave no doubt of its au-

Since the above was in type, we find the following telphia, the 28th Instant :

"A letter from Gen. Shields, dated Fairland, "A letter from Gen. Shields, dated Fairland, April 15th, pointedly contradicts the reported numerous Indian murders on the Mankato river, Minnesota. Reliable information from Blue Earth county states that there is not the slightest foundation for the absurd reports. His letter concludes by saying that there is neither hostility nor sign of hostility amongst the Indian tribes of the Territory of Minnesota. The Minnesotian of the 20th confirms the above."

THE DISTRIBUTION QUESTION AGAIN.

In 1842, at the request of Mr. Delane, the editor of th

London Times, I wrote a series of letters, which were published in the Times, and afterwards in a pamphle orm in the Great Western Magazine for September, 1842, a copy of which I send you; and refer you to that which treats of the distribution of the public lands. This letter was written at the request of an eminent London banker, who told me that persons interested in State bonds were then making up a fund to be sent to the United States to be expended in aiding the election of members of Conelse support the distribution of the proceeds of the publi lands, as a means of enabling the States to pay their debts. As the arguments then urged against the measure ar applicable to the distribution now, and as I foresee the necessity of providing for the payment of the large amount of American indebtedness soon to become due, and be lieve that prompt and efficient action by the federa government, as well as by the indebted States and railroad ompanies, is indispensable to prevent a monetary cric's will, with your permission, present my views of the neasures which, if adopted, will give us continued and increased prosperity; and as the measures which I pro pose will, if adopted, supersede the necessity of distribu tion, if that measure were constitutional and expedient which I respectfully submit my London letter proves i not to be, I ask of you to republish that letter, that may thus dispose of the question of distribution before submit the suggestions to which I refer.

DUFF GREEN

LETTER XX STATE CREDIT, THE PUBLIC LANDS.

The last advices from the United States are, that the dividends falling due by Pennsylvania, Maryland, Indiana, Michigan, Illinois, Arkansas, and Mississippi will not be paid. It requires no little fortitude, in the face of this fact, to appear before the British public as the advocate of American credit. Yet I do not hesitate to say that I believe that each and all of the American Strike will be a lower than the second and all of the American Strike will be a lower that the second and all of the American Strike will be a lower that the second and all of the American Strike will be a lower that the second and all of the American Strike will be a lower that the second and all of the American Strike will be a lower that the second and all of the American Strike will be a lower than the second and all of the American Strike will be a lower than the second and the sec American creat. Yet I do not nestate to say that I be-lieve that each and all of the American States will pay to the uttermost farthing all that they owe, principal and interest—that it is a question of time and manner, and not of payment. No people have given higher proofs of

not of payment. No people have given higher proofs of personal or national integrity; and apart from this consideration, the bearing of which must be admitted, the great body of the American people are too well aware of the value of credit, and so much interested in protecting it that they cannot afford to be dishonest. It is their interest to pay what they owe, and they will do so.

The State debts were contracted under a belief that a sufficient sum could be borrowed to complete the public works on which the money was expended, and that, when completed, the revenue derived therefrom would pay principal and interest. Their credit has been suddenly arrested—their public works, in some cases, are unfinished, and therefore unproductive; and the question now is, how are the means of payment to be provided? Several modes have been suggested, and the difficulty has been in agreeing upon the manner of payment. One party urged immediate taxation, as being the most equal, homest, and efficient. In some of the States this has been done; in others it has been delayed, because there has done; in others it has been delayed, because there has been so great a derangement of the local currency as to render the collection of taxes, in available funds, almost impossible. Hence, some of the States, with no less anx-iety to maintain their credit, have been induced to prefer expedients, the failure and the causes of which it is im-vectority to explain.

expedients, the failure and the causes of a common to all the struggle for place and patronage is common to all the struggle for place and patronage is common to all the struggle for place and patronage is call in England. France, governments. Its influence is felt in England, France, and Russia, as well as in the United States. In the latter, as the people are the source of power, aspirants adopt their measures in reference to what they believe the bearng of particular interests, or current questions, may b

n public opinion. It is not surprising that, in the peculiar condition of the States, a powerful party should have arisen, who, at the same time that they affect to be the especial guardians of the public credit, have proposed schemes to relieve the people of the indebted States from taxation. One of these people of the indebted States from taxation. One of these was the assumption of the State debts by the federal government; another was the distribution of the proceeds of the public land. Both had the merit of preventing the necessity of direct taxation, and both promised an early accomplishment of the purpose intended. Is it surprising that the people hesitated to tax themselves when they were induced to believe that ample provision would be made to protect their credit before they could themselves accomplish it by traction? ccomplish it by taxation-?

accomplish it by taxation-?

The proposition to assume the State debts was soon disposed of. Those with whom it originated had a much better knowledge of the Stock Exchange than of the questions and interests which control the legislation of Congress. The distribution of the proceeds of the publicands has become so much connected with political discussions, and has a direct a leaving on State credit that cussions, and has so direct a bearing on State credit, that

sumption of the State debts by the federal gov The assumption of the State debts of that that government is opposed upon the ground that that government was constituted for a limited and defined purpose that the ground the ground the ground the ground that the ground the g

ment was constituted for a limited and defined purpose, and has no authority to assume them. This is generally conceded, and the question may be considered as settled. The distribution of the proceeds of the public lands is advocated on the ground that they are the property of the States, held in trust for their use and benefit. It is opposed on the ground that those which were within the limits of the original States were the property of the States in which they were; that the right of such States was guarantied by the articles of confederation; that they were afterwards conveyed to the United States for the nurpose of creating a common fund to pay the debts, and purpose of creating a common fund to pay the debts, and ance, by converting a fund, common to all the States and intended to be applied to a common use, into separ-ate funds, to be applied by the several States to separate

o The ninth article of the confederation prescribes the powers of the Congress of the Confederation, and pro-

"That no State shall be deprived of territory for the

These articles were submitted to the States for their onsideration. Rhode Island proposed the following

"In the ninth article, at the end of the graph, after the words 'for the benefit of the United States,' add 'Provided, nevertheless, That all lands with-in these States, the property of which, before the present war, was vested in the Crown of Great Britain, or out of which revenue for quit-rents arise, payable to the said Crown, shall be deemed, taken, and considered as the property of these United States, and le disposed of and appropriated by Congress for the benefit of the whole confederacy; reserving, however, to the States within whose limits such Crown lands may be, the entire and

This amendment was considered in Congress on the

"The ninth article provides that no State shall be de-prived of territory for the benefit of the United States. Whether we are to understand that by territory is in-tended any land, the property of which was heretofere vested in the Crown of Great Britain, or that no mention of such land is made in the confederation, we are con-tarting to observe that the present war as we always of such land is made in the confederation, we are constrained to observe that the present war, as we always
apprehended, was undertaken for the general defence and
interest of the confederating colonies, now the United
States. It was ever the confident expectation of this
State that the benefits derived from: a successful contest
were to be general and proportionate: and that the property of the common enemy, falling in consequence of a
prosperous issue of the war, would belong to the United
States, and be appropriated to their use. We are, therefore, greatly disappointed in finding no provision made in
the confederation for empowering the Congress to dispose
of such property, but especially the vacant and impatented lands, commonly called the Crown lands, for defraying the expenses of the war, and for such other public and general purposes. The jurisdiction ought, in
every instance, to belong to the respective States, to set
the charter or determined limits of which such lands may
be seated; but reason and justice must decide that the
property which existed in the Crown of Great Britain,
previous to the present revolution, ought now to belong property which existed in the Crown of Great Britain, previous to the present revolution, ought now to belong to the Congress, in trust for the use and benefit of the United States. They have fought and bled for it, in proportion to their respective abilities, and therefore the reward ought not to be predilectionally distributed. Shall such States as are shut out by situation from availing themselves from the least advantage from this quarter be left to sink under an enormous debt, whilst others are enabled, in a short period, to replace all their expenditures from the hard carnings of the whole confederacy?

Here the case is most strongly stated, and yet the Con-

It is further opposed upon the ground that the chief reliance of the federal government for the protection of the public credit was the duty upon imports; and that as the amount of the public debt and the condition of the public credit was the duty upon imports; and that, as the amount of the public debt and the condition of their foreign commerce were such as to induce the States, to whom these lands belonged, to convey them to the United States for the express purpose of creating a common fund towards maintaining the public credit, and thereby relieving the government from the necessity of imposing oppressive duties, a distribution would, by diminishing the current revenue, create a necessity for higher duties, which it was the object of the cession to revenue.

higher duties, which it was the object of the cession to prevent.

It is opposed upon the forther ground that its effect would be to accustom the States to rely on the federal government, and to encourage prodigal expenditures, under a belief that the means of payment would be furnished from the federal treasury—the opponents contending that each State should rely on its own resources, and that no State should contract any debt without providing the means of payment by levying taxes, in all cases where the current revenues are deficient.

That there are individuals in the United States, as in England, who would apply the sponge to the State debts, is no doubt true; but it is no less true that in none of the States do such individuals constitute a respectable proportion of the population; the only question there is, how can the States best provide the means of payment! Mr. Chay and his party say, by distributing the proceeds of the public lands; the democratic party say, by conomizing the expenditure and requisite taxation. In the mean time, the result of this difference of opinion—this contest between the parties—has been to delay the action of the States; but events are rapidly progressing, and public opinion, as indicated in the elections, is establishing the ascendency of the democratic party. The result of Mr. Clay's expedients has been to delay, but not to defeat, the legislation by the States. Having ascertained that Congress will not pay their debts, the States will themselves proceed to lexy taxes, and make provision therefor.

These remarks are deemed indispensable, in explana-

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will themselves proceed to levy taxes, and make provision therefor.

These remarks are deemed indispensable, in explanation of the present state of parties, and of the proceedings resulting in the late veto of President Tyler; for Mr. Clay, having obtained an accidental party majority in the present Congress, digested a scheme of measures in reference to the next presidential election. Among them was the bill for distributing the proceeds of the public lands. It was argued by his opponents that the distribution would create a deficiency in the revenue, and make it necessary to raise the duties on imported merchandise above twenty per cent., the maximum prescribed by the act of 1833, known as the compromise act; and to gratify senators representing anti-tariff States, and because it was known that otherwise it would not be approved by the President, a proviso was added, forbidding the distribution in case of war, or in case a higher duty than twenty per cent. was levied on any article of imported merchandise. By the act of 1833 all duties were, on the lat of July, 1842, to be reduced to twenty per cent on the value at the place of importation, to be paid in cash, and levied under regulations prescribed by law.

There was a difference of opinion as to the effect of this act; some supposing that, as no law prescribing the mode of valuation had been passed, no duty could be collected. Several bills upon the subject of the tariff were reported to the present Congress; but, as neither of them had been matured, a temporary act was passed, extending the law, as it then was, to the 1st of Angust, so as to enable Congress to mature a bill. Mr. Clay's purpose was to consolidate into a political party the advocates of protective duties and the advocates of distribution. To do this it became indispensable to get rid of the provision of the act of 1841, forbidding the distribution so long as duties are imposed at a higher rate than twenty per cent. This was the purpose of the temporary act to which we have referred. If it ha

But it may be that the spirit of faction will control the dominant party in Congress, as their only hope of electing Mr. Clay to the presidency depends upon aggravating the present pecuniary embarrassments of the country.

These details exhibit a state of political morals discreditable to the parties, and will be used, by those who are wont to disparage America, as an argument to verify their oft-repeated opinions. We give them because we act on the principle that "truth is the best remedy for desperate cases," and because the intelligent and candid reader will see that they verify what we have already said, that Mr. Clay and his party, while they affect to be the especial friends and guardians of the credit of the States, are, in truth, the advocates of high protective duties, and that their measure of distribution is an expedient adopted under the hope of creating a political party, to be composed of those who are for protective duties, and those who are of those who are for protective duties, and those who are opposed to the States paying their debts by taxing themselves; and that, on the other hand, the democratic party, who are opposed to Mr. Clay, are in favor of reducing the duty on imports to the lowest point consistent with a revenue for an economical administration of the government, and that they oppose the distribution on the ground that they are unwilling thereby to create a necessity for higher duties, and because they believe it to be the duty of the States to levy taxes on themselves to pay their own debts.

We believe, further, that the intelligence is to the duty of the states to levy taxes.

We believe, further, that the intelligent reader will see We believe, further, that the intelligent reader will see in the facts that we have stated something to palliate, at though they do not justify, the delay in payment of their debts by the States in default; and that, considering, at they should do, the success of the democratic party in the coming elections a proof that these disreputable conflicts are about to terminate—and that, abandoning Mr. Clay and his expedients, the States will apply themselve to their cover resources, and adout the resource resources. City and his expedients, the States will apply themserves to their own resources, and adopt the means necessary to revive and sustain their credit—they will find in these letters much to excuse the past, and to inspire hopes and confidence for the future. No one who has not been in the United States can form any idea of the sacrifices which the people have made, or of the trials they have

Your bank circulation in 1818 was near 48,000,000 Your bank circulation in 1818 was near 48,000,000 pounds sterling. You were then presperous. It was reduced to less than 42,000,000 in 1819, and there was great distress. It was further reduced; and in 1822 was less than 27,000,000, and the distress was increased, and county meetings called for relief. It rose in 1824 and 1825 to 34,000,000, and again there was great presperify. Again, in 1829 it was reduced to less than 28,000,000, and there was great distress, and burnings, and meetings to petition for relief. In 1836 it was again increased to near 30,000,000, and there was a return of prosperity. Again, in 1841 it was reduced to 25,223,023, and there is the deepest distress.

ne deepest distress.

If such is the effect of these contractions of your bank If such is the effect of these contractions of your bank circulation, what must have been the effect in the United States, where the depreciation in some States was so great as to render bank notes comparatively useless, and, at the same time, to banish gold and silver entirely from circulation; while in other States, New York, for instance, where the banks continued to pay specie, the contraction was equal to two-thirds of their entire circulation! What other country could have survived, or is there any other people who could have endured, such a crisis?

crisis?

We repeat, that gloomy and forbidding as appearances may be, it is but the darkness which precedes the coming day. The great political struggle which has so long and so fearfully agitated the country will restore the accordency of the democratic party; and that party are pledged

States voting in the affirmative, six in the negative, and

one State divided.

The States claiming vacant lands were Massacht Connecticut, New York, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia, North and South Carolina, and Georgia. The States having no vacant land, or comparatively none, were New Hampshire, Rhode Island, New Jersey, and

Delaware. Congress afterwards urged the States to cede a portion of their waste and uncultivated territories to provide a common fund for the expenses of the war; and, by a resolution of the 10th of October, 1780, declared

"That the unappropriated lands that may be cedei or relinquished to the United States, by any particular State, pursuant to the recommendation of Congress of the 6th of September last, shall be disposed of for the common benefit of the United States." And the several cessions made by the several States embrace a clause requiring that the fund to be created shall be common to all the States. The effect of distribution is to sever this common fund.